

**COMBATANT CRAFT DETACHMENT
CARDEROCK DIVISION
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER
NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND**

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. NAVY HOSTS WATERCRAFT CONFERENCE

Norfolk, Virginia. The Combatant Craft Detachment (CCD) of the Carderock Division, a field engineering organization of the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), announces a forum focusing on Department of Defense and government boats and craft June 17-19 at the Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base. This year's theme is "Innovative Operations".

The Multi-Agency Craft Conference (MACC), sponsored by PEO SHIPS PMS 325 (NAVSEA), PM Army Watercraft Systems and the United States Marine Corps System Command, fosters mutual understanding between military, government and commercial firms. The primary focus of MACC 2003 is the dialogue between the DoD and other Government agencies on common issues unique to boats and watercraft in their service.

In the current and projected world environment, the role of small craft technology is taking on increased emphasis as Special Warfare Operations, Littoral Warfare, Force Protection, Homeland Security and other limited conflict mission applications which require smaller, more affordable, yet highly capable vehicle configurations become even more prevalent. MACC 2003 explores groundbreaking developments affecting the operational readiness, reliability and resources of combatant and logistics watercraft of the 21st Century in support of the U.S. Armed Forces missions and personnel.

The future Force Protection, littoral warfare, and limited conflict missions place vital emphasis on small craft today and in the warfare of tomorrow. Therefore, MACC 2003 objectives are to:

- Inform participants of lessons learned during training missions and in the warfare theater affecting the operational readiness, reliability and resources of combatant and service craft.
- Present on-going operational needs and the associated technological initiatives within the Government and industry that may provide solutions for these needs.

Keynote speakers invited include VADM James D. Hall, USCG CO Atlantic Area, US Maritime Defense Zone, RADM Albert M. Calland III, NAVSPECWARCOM and COL Michael J. Toal, US Army CASCOM. Also invited are CAPT Pat Sudol USN, Assistant Program Manager PEO Ships and Mr. Art Divens, Executive Director PEO Ships.

The MACC is not a marketing event. Rather it offers an opportunity for in-water and static displays, exhibitions, demonstrations, presentations and discussions on issues of interest to the boat and small watercraft community.